(22) Resolution by Dr.O.P.Bhatnagar

Resolution XIV Resolved that the State Governments be requested to open Regional, or Divisional archives in each Commissioner's Division, where the non-ephemeral records of all the Collectoratesetc. in the Division may be collected and preserved under the overall control and supervision of the Director of the State Archives. This is absolutely essential for the purpose of not only preservation of papers, but also for promoting the writing of regional history.

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

(23) Resolution by Dr.P.L.Mehra

Resolution XV Resolved that the Commission recommends to the authorities of the National Archives of India and of the State Archives to make available to bonafide research scholars residential accommodation at reasonable rates. Further more, it recommends for the consideration of the Ministry of Education at the Centre and in the States to put up hostels which will cater to the needs of such research scholars.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

The Chairman then moved the following resolution, which received the whole-hearted and unanimous approbation of the members:

Resolution XVI The President and members of the Commission thank the Government of Kerala for hosting its 41st Session at Trivandrum and making excellent arrangements for the success of its work. The Commission also expresses its appreciation and gratitude to the Education Secretary, the Local Secretary and their colleagues, for their untiring efforts and meticulous attention to details to ensure the smooth functioning of the Session and a comfortable and fruitful stay for the delegates.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Discussion Meeting

The discussion meeting on Religio-Political Movements in India in the 19th Century was held in the forenoon of 11th October 1971 at the Kanakakunnu Palace, Trivandrum. Before the meeting started, the Secretary, Dr.S.N.Prasad, informed the members that the Minister of State, Prof.S. Nurul Hasan, had to return to Delhi and suggested that Prof.Sri Ram Sharma, a senior member of the Commission, may be requested to preside. This was unanimously approved and Prof.Sharma took the Chair. The Commission had received in all five papers viz (i) Brahmo Samaj in Bihar in the Second Half of the 19th Century - Surendra Gopal and Satyanarain Prasad; (ii) Religious Movements in Orissa in the 19th Century - K.M.Patra; (iii) Anti-British Movement in Orissa, 1817 - B.C.Ray; (iv) Politico-Religious Upsurge in Bammanghattee Pargannah in 1866-67 A.D. - S.P.Sinha; and (v) A Survey of Religio-Political Movements in India in the 19th Century - Tara Sankar Banerjee.

Dr.Tara Sankar Banerjee first read his paper. In the discussion that followed, Shri F.M.Hassnain, Director, Jammu & Kashmir Archives, wanted to caution the members that very often the social and religious movements were treated as religio-political movements. Shri W.S.Khan from Madhya Pradesh was of the view that Wahabi Movement was a religious movement and not a political movement as its aim was to re-establish purity of Islamic religion. Dr.Fauja Singh of the Punjabi University felt that they could not cover all the 19th century movements under one category, as by doing so one

would be bringing in the Kuka Movement and the Arya Samaj Movement in the fold of religio-political movements without making any distinction between the two. He said that many religious movements had a social aspect as well, and such movements were neither purely religious nor purely political movements. Dr. Fauja Singh also objected to the use of the term movement for the Indian National Congress during the 19th century as according to him the Congress was a forum during that period. Dr. Panchanand Misra agreed with the points raised by Dr. Fauja Singh. Dr. Ravindran pointed out that Dr. Banerjee's paper did not mention important religious movements in Kerala in the 19th century, such as the movement organised by Shiva Narain against untouchability. Thiru S. Singarajan, Director of Archives, Tamil Nadu pointed out that non-Brahmin movements in the South might also be included in the orbit of such a paper.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Dr. S.N. Prasad remarked that the attempt should be to bring out new source materials on such subjects, which was the aim of the Indian Historical Records Commission. Prof. S.R. Sharma agreed with the above remarks of Dr. Prasad. He added that the recent publication of original material did not support the view that the Indian National Congress was a religio-political movement.

Dr. Banerjee in his reply stated that most of these movements had at times been religious and social. The Wahabi Movement was one such example. In this connection, he drew the attention of the members to a recent publication on the

Wahabi Movement by Asiatic Society, Dacca. He, however, did not agree with Thiru Singarajan's views that non-Brahmin agitation in the South was not a reaction but a movement.

Dr.K.M.Patra then read his paper. In the discussion that followed, Shri Hassnain pointed out that Dr.Patra did not refer to the records in Bengal. Dr.Tara Sankar held the view that the Mahima Movement was only a religious and not a religio-political movement, as it had little impact on the political life. He also doubted if Brahmo Samaj had any political activities.

Replying to the discussion, Dr.Patra stated that the Brahmo Samaj Movement had first started in Orissa and his aim was to point out the regional source materials available on the subject in Orissa. From these sources the religious aspect of Brahmo or Mahima Movements were clear, but not their social and political aspects. Prof.S.R.Sharma did not agree with the view that the Brahmo movement had its origin in Orissa, although Orissa could have given impetus to it. However, he opined that the paper was useful in bringing to light the source materials on Mahima Movement which had so far escaped the notice of the scholars.

Dr.B.C.Ray then read his paper on Anti-British Movement in Orissa in 1817. Dr.Ray remarked that his main aim was to bring to light the sources of this movement in Orissa.

The papers on "Politico-Religious Upsurge in Bammanghattee Pargannah in 1866-67 A.D" and on "Brahmo Samaj in Bihar in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century" were not read due to the absence of the contributors.

Dr. Prasad then pointed out that with the 41st Session the existing term of the Indian Historical Records Commission would come to an end and that he was not sure whether the "Discussion Meetings" as such would continue to find a place in the revised constitution of the Commission. However, he suggested that it would be proper to select a subject for discussion at the next session of the Commission. He also reminded the delegates that the Commission's main aim in inviting these papers was to focus attention on the hitherto unknown source materials.

After some discussion, the following topic for the Discussion Meeting at the next Session of the Commission was agreed to:

"Agrarian Movements in India, from 1857 to 1947".

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of members who attended the 41st Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Trivandrum.

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1. Prof. S. Nurul Hasan (President)
2. Shrimati Padma Ramachandran
3. Dr. O. P. Bhatnagar
4. Prof. Sri Ram Sharma
5. Dr. J. N. Sarkar
6. Dr. G. H. Khare
7. Dr. D. P. Sinha
8. Dr. G. S. Dikshit
9. Dr. A. R. Kulkarni
10. Prof. S. A. Ali
11. Dr. R. K Dharaiya
12. Dr. H. L. Gupta
13. Shri M. P. Das
14. Thiru S. Singarajan
15. Shri F. M. Hassnain
16. Dr. B. S. Nijjar
17. Dr. K. N. Pandey
18. Dr. Amba Prasad
19. Shri V. G. Khobrekar
20. Dr. K. P. Srivastava
21. Dr. V. A. Narain
22. Dr. S. C. Misra
23. Dr. Fauja Singh
24. Dr. P. L. Mehra
25. Shri B. K. Basu
26. Shri R. S. Gupta
27. Dr. Panchanand Misra
28. Dr. S. P. Sen
29. Dr. Gopal Krishna
30. Dr. L. B. Keny
31. Dr. D. Tripathi
32. Shri S. B. Bhat
33. Dr. S. N. Prasad, (Ex-Officio Secretary)

Special invitees

34. Dr. D. N. Shukla
35. Dr. T. K. Ravindran
36. Prof. K. C. Kormocar